

The Southeast News

VOLUME XI, NUMBER 6

APRIL 1963

Eleventh Annual Meeting
Of The
Southeast Convention Of Congregational
Christian Churches, Inc.

(An Acting Conference of the United Church of Christ)

Saturday and Sunday

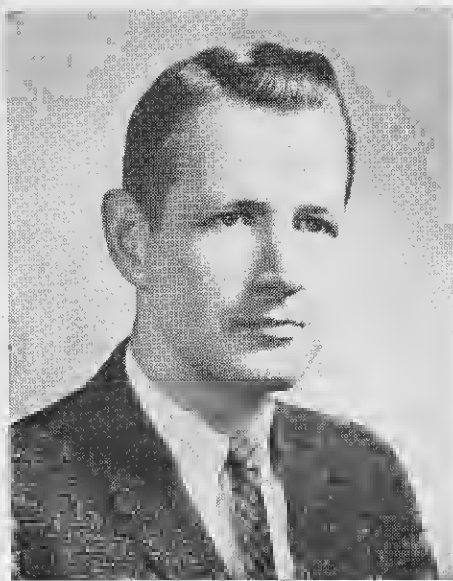
April 27-28, 1963

The United Church Of Christ

Huntsville, Alabama

Theme: "The Church — A Learning and Witnessing Community"

Moderator Rev. J. Kermit Harris
Moderator Elect W. P. Ingram
Recording Secretary Mrs. A. D. Harry
Treasurer W. J. Strickland
Host Pastor Rev. W. Raymond Berry



REV. EDWARD A. POWERS

Board General Secretary Will Address Convention

The Reverend Edward A. Powers of Philadelphia is general secretary of the Division of Christian Education of the Board of Homeland Ministries of the United Church of Christ.

Mr. Powers is scheduled to address the annual meeting of the convention on Saturday afternoon and to deliver the sermon at the Sunday morning worship service.

Prior to joining the national staff in 1956 he was pastor of the Congregational Christian Church in Pleasant Hill, Ohio, from 1953 to 1956, and earlier served as pastor of the Dunbar United Church, Hamden, Conn.

Mr. Powers served as national secretary of young people's work for the Congregational Christian Churches, a post which made him top administrative officer of the church's 150,000 member Pilgrim Fellowship, before assuming his present position.

As general secretary of the Division of Christian Education he directs the denomination's broad Christian education program which includes currently the introduction of the new church school curriculum.

Mr. Powers was born in Jamestown, N. Y. He is a graduate of the College of Wooster, Ohio, and the Yale Divinity School, Conn. He has also done graduate work in adult education at Boston University, Mass.

He is married to the former Ella Pierson of Hockessin, Delaware. They have three children.

Report Of The Moderator

I am both mindful and appreciative of the honor which you, the people of the Southeast Convention, extended me in electing me your moderator for the year 1962-1963. It has been an eventful year; I believe that it has been a meaningful year.

The Christian concept of a United Church of Christ moves toward reality. It has been nothing less than thrilling to have joined with your representatives in the pursuit of this reality. True, there is much yet to be said and done; however, we should be encouraged and assured by the fact that that which has been said and done has been said and done in the Spirit of Christ. Ours is a proud heritage; it remains so only so long as we are Christian.

I would do you a grave injustice if I failed to remind you of the fact that ours is still a mission Convention. As during the past year, I continue to be concerned for the fact that we are not meeting our Convention budget. We were able to operate last year only because of a small accumulated reserve. If we are to face up to the implications of our Great Commission we must now reconsider our gifts to Our Christian World Mission. Very few of our churches are giving what they should give; others are making little more than a token gift; and many are giving nothing whatsoever. Because I believe that you are concerned for our Program of Progress, I remind you of these facts. Will you begin now to bring your Christian influence, both as a local church and as an individual, to bear in this matter?

Respectfully submitted,
J. Kermit Harris

SEC SUMMER CAMPS

Senior High — June 9-15, Camp Ozone, Ozone, Tenn.

Senior High — June 16-22, Roosevelt State Park, Georgia

Junior High — July 28-August 3, Camp Ozone, Ozone, Tenn.

Junior High — August 4-10, Roosevelt State Park, Georgia

For further details write to: Rev. Emilie F. Pitcock, 673 Piedmont Ave., N. E., Atlanta 8, Georgia.

EXTEND YOUR HORIZONS
READ YOUR
CHURCH MAGAZINES



DR. DONALD C. DEARBORN

Catawba College President Member Executive Council

The Rev. Dr. Donald C. Dearborn, president of Catawba College, Salisbury, North Carolina, is one of the featured speakers on the program of the annual meeting of the convention as the representative of the Executive Council of the United Church.

Dr. Dearborn will address the convention on Saturday morning and is the guest speaker for the joint banquet on Saturday night.

The Executive Council of the United Church is composed of 21 ministers and lay men and women. The council conducts business for the denomination in the interim between meetings of the General Synod. Dr. Dearborn is the vice-chairman of this body.

Dr. Dearborn became the 15th president of Catawba College in 1963, following more than 28 years of service to the school. He first joined its faculty in 1935 as an instructor in mathematics. He became registrar in 1940 and dean of the college in 1947.

Born in Osceola, Nebraska, on March 20, 1910, Dr. Dearborn was graduated from Hastings College, Nebraska, in 1931. He received a Master's degree from the University of Nebraska in 1933 and a Doctorate in Mathematics from Duke University in 1936.

He is married to the former Mary Omwake of Salisbury, whose father, Dr. Howard R. Omwake, was president of Catawba College from 1931 to 1942. They have three children.

Report Of Committee Christian Social Action

Our Committee met on January 8 at Pilgrim Congregational Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Our first concern was the strongly felt need to have all areas of the convention represented on the committee. We voted, therefore, to request the Board of Directors of the convention to empower the convention Moderator to communicate with the different conference and association moderators and suggest that they either appoint or elect a representative to the committee.

Although we have taken no formal action as a committee on these issues, we do recommend that each church give serious study to the following concerns:

a) **Federal Aid to Education.** Many young people in our convention are being denied a good education because of the poor economic status of the region. Should we ask the Federal government to help us meet this serious situation, or should we raise the money through heavy local and state sales and property taxes?

b) **Medical Care for the Aged.** With the high cost of medicine and hospitalization, many of our Senior Citizens are unable to afford adequate medical care. Should they be allowed to suffer, or should we as a nation see that these worthy citizens are cared for in the closing years of their lives? What are the alternatives to the plan of Federal Old Age Insurance being proposed by the Administration?

c) **Unsigned Material.** Often slanderous material is sent through the mail unsigned. How much credence should be given to such material since the persons responsible for it are unwilling to identify themselves?

d) **Facing Change and Controversy.** We are living in a changing world. What responsibility do our churches in the Southeast Convention have in regard to the social and economic changes which are taking place in our area? Does the Gospel of Jesus Christ have anything to say about the changing situation in which we find ourselves? Should the church take a stand for what it knows is right on a controversial issue even when its stand is unpopular?

Respectfully submitted,
Clyde C. Flannery

Report Of Committee Ministry And Churches

During the year 1962 the Southeast Convention, through its Associations and Conferences, received five ministers into its membership. Four transfers were granted to men moving into other areas, and four others were lost by death or withdrawal. There are presently ninety-one ordained ministers, twenty-one licensed ministers, and five ministers who have received Local Ordination. There is one student "in care of Associations" while preparing for the ministry.

The 1962 United Church Minister's Convocation was held at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, November 26-28, with approximately fifty ministers present from the Convention of the South and the Southeast Convention. Leaders for the convocation were Dr. Ben M. Herbster, president of the United Church; Rev. Archie Hargraves, secretary, Urban Church Department; and Rev. Serge F. Hummon, Secretary, Town and Country Church Department.

The 1963 Spring Convocation of Southeast Convention ministers will be held at Southern Union College, May 14-16. Rev. Walter E. Dobler, secretary of Adult and Leadership Ministries Staff of the Division of Christian Education, will be the main leader. Ministers should make their plans now to attend.

The third annual Convocation of United Church Ministers will be held in late fall of this year. Leadership and program details will be sent to the ministers from the convention office.

The churches are urged to provide time and expenses for the ministers to attend convocations, and the summer schools at Deering, Laforet, Eden, etc.

W. Raymond Berry
Chairman, Pro Tem

Extend Your Horizons

Now is the best time to resolve to extend your horizons by subscribing to THE SOUTHEAST NEWS and THE UNITED CHURCH HERALD.

During the sessions of this annual meeting the subscription rate is \$1 for the News and \$2 for the Herald — a special price of \$3 for annual subscriptions to both.

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THE SOUTHEAST NEWS



FRED D. POWELL, President

The Report From The Church Builder's Club

We suddenly find ourselves coming to the end of the year in the Church Builder's Club. The Club has had as its project the past year the Russell Woods Church, Phenix City, Alabama. A check for \$750.00 has been presented for their use. Receipts for the 1961-1963 year at the time of this writing, we find 14 churches of the convention responded for a total of \$855.00. The 14 churches responding are:

Andalusia, First
Atlanta, Central
Chattanooga, Pilgrim
East Tallassee; C. C.
Headland, Blackwood
LaFayette, Pleasant Grove
Lanett, Cong'l. Christian
Montgomery, United
Nashville, Brookmeade
Pine Mountain, Oak Grove
Tallassee, Mt. Olive
Wadley, Christian
West Point, Bethel

There is no doubt that this is a beginning, but falls far short of our goal. Let us hope that several additional churches will have responded before our annual meeting and will push the Club the ensuing year.

If your church is not listed, it is suggested that you push this project in your church before the annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred D. Powell, President

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STAFF

Rev. Jas. H. Lightbourne, Jr. Editor

Mrs. Jettie Logan Promotion

Volume XI April 1963 No. 6

Superintendent's Corner

For the year 1962 the Southeast Convention reported a total of 113 churches to our national offices. This total includes 2 inactive churches.

73 churches of the Convention have voted to be a part of the United Church. 26 churches have not taken official action either way. 14 churches have voted not to be a part of the United Church.

At any time in the future it is possible for the 40 churches that have not chosen to be in the United Church to vote to do so. In any event, they are strongly urged to continue their membership in their present associations and conferences.

The total membership of the churches of the convention now stands at 9109. During 1962 the convention dropped 3 churches and the total membership decreased by 381.

The churches reported regular home expenses of \$377,513 and capital payments of \$112,478 — a total of \$489,991.

Our Christian World Mission contributions amounted to \$33,465 — less than 10% of the home expenditures. The total benevolent contribution of the churches was \$45,126 — which is less than 10% of the total amount spent at home.

The value of all church property was reported as \$3,938,000.

These figures indicate there is vigor in the churches of the convention. They also indicate we must be deeply concerned about our outreach — both in terms of evangelism and church extension and in terms of our support of Our Christian World Mission and our other benevolent institutions and projects.

Let us resolve to meet the challenge of these concerns in the year before us.

Southeast Convention Financial Statement

January 1 - December 31, 1962

RECEIPTS

Budgeted Receipts		
Board of Home Missions Subsidy	\$ 8,699.20	
Miscellaneous	2,728.46	11,427.66
Our Christian World Mission Receipts		
Central Alabama Association	749.54	
East Alabama Association	7,993.23	
North Alabama Association	2,070.79	
S. Alabama-N. W. Florida Association	755.81	
Georgia-South Carolina Conference	10,413.00	
Kentucky-Tennessee Conference	8,928.15	
Other	1,324.08	32,234.60
Total Budgeted Receipts		43,662.26

Unbudgeted Receipts		
Board of Home Missions (Church Aid, Etc.)	18,558.33	
For Christian Higher Education Fund	3,628.04	
For Southern Union College	1,772.26	
Per Capita Dues for General Council	2,114.50	
Miscellaneous	4,520.59	
Total Unbudgeted Receipts		30,593.72
TOTAL RECEIPTS		74,255.98

DISBURSEMENTS

Budgeted Disbursements		
Salaries and Annuities	15,787.62	
Office (Rent, Equipment, Etc.)	1,030.45	
Supplies and Materials	1,877.29	
The Southeast News	1,239.43	
Organization (Board, Committees, Etc.)	1,362.99	
Travel (Supt. Min. Chr. Ed., Special)	6,318.66	
Parsonage (Note, Ins., Maintenance)	1,408.99	
Miscellaneous	2,478.71	
Church Aid	6,250.07	
National Boards and Agencies	8,727.79	
Total Budgeted Disbursements		46,482.00

Unbudgeted Disbursements		
To Churches, etc., from Board Home Missions	18,158.34	
Christian Higher Education Fund (Nat'l.)	3,628.04	
Southern Union College	1,772.26	
General Council (Per Capita Dues)	2,114.50	
Miscellaneous	3,291.67	
Total Unbudgeted Disbursements		28,964.81
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		75,446.81

RECAPITULATION

Total Receipts 1962	74,255.98	
	—1,190.83	
Beginning Balance 1962		
Restricted	1,979.60	
Regular	6,727.50	8,707.10
Balance December 31, 1962		
Restricted	2,634.59	
Regular	4,881.68	
Total	7,516.27	

Respectfully submitted,
W. J. Strickland
Treasurer

Eleventh Annual Meeting
Southeast Convention Of Congregational
Christian Churches, Inc.

(An Acting Conference of the United Church of Christ)

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Huntsville, Alabama

April 27-28, 1963

THEME: "THE CHURCH — A LEARNING AND WITNESSING COMMUNITY"

PROGRAM

SATURDAY, APRIL 27 (CENTRAL STANDARD TIME)

- 10:30 A. M. Call to Order: Rev. J. Kermit Harris, Moderator
The Morning Devotions: Rev. Harold C. Henderson, Minister, The United Church, Montgomery, Alabama
- 10:45 A. M. Welcome: Mr. Philip Woodbury, Moderator, United Church, Huntsville
Response: Rev. J. Kermit Harris, Moderator of the Convention
Adoption of the Program
Recognition of Fraternal Delegates and Visitors
Presentation of the Minutes of the 1962 Annual Meeting: Mrs. A. D. Harry, Recording Secretary
The Report of the Treasurer: Mr. W. J. Strickland
The Appointment of Committees:
 Business Committee
 Place Committee
 Resolutions Committee
The Reporter of the Moderator: Rev. J. Kermit Harris
Committee Reports:
 Christian Education Mrs. W. Raymond Berry
 Evangelism Rev. John D. Schofield
 Ministry and Churches Rev. W. Raymond Berry
 Christian Social Action Rev. Clyde C. Flannery
 Stewardship and Missionary Education Rev. A. Ray Meserve
 Survey and Church Aid Rev. Arnold Slater
The Report of the Nominating Committee: Rev. Harold C. Henderson
- 12:00 Noon The United Church of Christ: Dr. Donald C. Dearborn, vice-chairman of the Executive Council of the United Church
- 12:30 P. M. Recess for Lunch

Afternoon

- 1:30 P. M. Call to Order: Rev. J. Kermit Harris, Moderator
The Afternoon Devotions: Rev. Harold C. Henderson
- 1:45 P. M. The Report of the Joint Committee on Reorganization and Realignment
for a United Church Conference: Rev. W. Raymond Berry, Chairman
The Report of the Superintendent: Rev. James H. Lightbourne Jr.
The Report of the Minister of Christian Education: Rev. Emilie F.
Pitcock
The Report of The Southern Union College: President Walter A. Graham
- 2:45 P. M. Address: Rev. Edward A. Powers, General Secretary, Division of Christ-
ian Education, United Church Board of Homeland Ministries
- 3:30 P. M. WORKSHOPS
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Christian Education | Mrs. W. Raymond Berry |
| Christian Social Action | Rev. Clyde C. Flannery |
| Evangelism | Rev. John D. Schofield |
| Stewardship and Missionary Education | Rev. A. Ray Meserve
and Rev. Kariton C. Johnson |
- 4:30 P. M. Visit to Site of New Church
- 7:00 P. M. BANQUET
Speaker: Dr. Donald C. Dearborn, President, Catawba College
Separate meetings of the Churchmen's Fellowship and the Women's
Fellowship will follow the banquet and program.)

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

- 7:00 A. M. Breakfast Meeting for Christian Education Associates
- 9:00 A. M. Call to Order: Rev. J. Kermit Harris, Moderator
Morning Prayers: Rev. Harold C. Henderson
- 9:15 A. M. The Annual Meeting of the Church Builders Club
Mr. Fred D. Powell, President
- 9:45 A. M. The Report of the Women's Fellowship: Miss Dora C. Brackin, President
The Report of the Churchmen's Fellowship: Mr. Rufus G. Obrecht,
President
The Report of the PF/YF: Mr. Wray Allen, President
- 10:00 A. M. The Congregational Christian Foundation: Rev. Arnold Slater, Chairman
The Election of Officers
Other Business
Report of the Place Committee
Report of the Resolutions Committee
Memorial Silence and Prayer
Final Adjournment Following the Morning Service
- 10:45 A. M. Service of Worship: Conducted by Rev. W. Raymond Berry
Sermon: Rev. Edward A. Powers
Communion Service, Dedication of Women's Gift, Installation of Of-
ficers

Note: The Committee on Christian Education will meet on Sunday afternoon from
1:30 until 3:30.

The Organ for this annual meeting was graciously provided by the
Robbins Music Center of Huntsville

Committee On Stewardship And Missionary Education

Every church should exist for missionary activity, for every church is itself both a mission and a base for missions. No legal congregation is really a church unless it is concerned both for its local program and for missionary activity beyond the local parish.

In our church fellowship a major part of our responsibility beyond our local parishes is designated "Our Christian World Mission." Through "OCWM" we carry on the mission of our churches at the convention level, in our own country, and throughout the world. Through our financial support of "OCWM" we undergird the programs of the various instrumentalities and organizations of our fellowship of churches charged with the responsibility of the programs of Our Christian World Mission at home and overseas.

It is heartening to be able to state that our denomination increased its support of OCWM during the year 1962 by 8.53%. This is a greater increase than that recorded by any other major denomination.

Unfortunately, the same kind of statement cannot be made about the Southeast Convention. During 1962 the churches of the convention contributed a total of \$33,667 through regular channels to OCWM. This is the highest total in the history of the convention. But it represents an increase of less than 2%.

We should be concerned about this. We should be concerned because we ought to assume our rightful share of the support of the total program of our denomination. We should be concerned because we ought to maintain the Program of Progress of our own convention.

In order for the convention to reach self-support and no longer be dependent on financial subsidy by the Board for Homeland Ministries, it is necessary that we increase our support of OCWM by at least 15% this year.

Suggested goals on the "Ladder of Progress" have been sent to each church. Additional copies are available from the convention office. The committee urges each church to accept its goal and to make regular payments on a monthly basis to the convention office.

The Reverend Karlton C. Johnson is now at work as the Southern Regional Secretary for the Stewardship Council of the United Church. He is available to work with the Stewardship & Mis-

Report Of Committee Christian Education

This committee has been very busy this past year. Two regular committee meetings have been held, at one of which we were fortunate in having our regional consultant present, the Rev. Howard Boardman, of the national Leadership Ministries staff of the Division of Christian Education. At this time we were able to share our mutual plans and concerns — which was most helpful to the committee.

The two subcommittees have had various meetings to carry on their work and have been very helpful to the convention. The Camp Committee has met often to plan for, evaluate, and help carry out the camping program in the Southeast Convention. Last summer four camps were held in the convention; four are planned for this coming summer with plans for them well under way at this time. This committee has done much to coordinate the camping program and enable it to grow.

The Youth Committee has been at work and evidence of this was the fine Planning and Training Conference held at Southern Union College in December. This proved to be most helpful in giving guidance to the transition into the Youth Ministry for our young people and our churches. The committee has been helpful to the young people in many ways and plans are under way for the annual meeting of the PF/YF in Waycross, March 30-31, and for the National Youth Forum to be held in Atlanta in June. The young people, with their advisors and Miss Pitcock, are now taking the positions of leadership in their meetings, rallies, and conferences.

As the leadership in the Southeast Convention has grown, our CEA (Christian Education Associates) group

sionary Education Committees of the convention and the associations and conferences of the convention. He is also available to consult with local churches and ministers.

Mr. Johnson's office address is:
Rev. Karlton C. Johnson
409 Decatur Federal Building
250 East Ponce de Leon Ave.
Decatur, Georgia

Your Committee on Stewardship and Missionary Education stands ready to help any church that wishes its services.

Respectfully submitted,
A. Ray Meserve

Report Of The Evangelism Committee

"No planned round of actions can substitute for the obligation and privilege of announcing a deed — a fact — that God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself. This is evangelism; confronting each man with the living gospel of Jesus Christ, that in this time and place he will find a new life in Christ."

The above paragraph appears in the Board of Home Missions Biennial Report of a few years ago. This statement on Evangelism was true then. It is true today.

Eric Bascom Jr. of the Maine Conference, has said, "In the midst of — and in spite of — all the varied activities in which we engage, the task of bringing people into a fruitful relationship with Jesus Christ is still THE FIRST CONCERN OF THE CHURCH."

"Christian Nurture", or Christian growth, has been held high as the one safe goal in Evangelism, but we do well to remember that Horace Bushnell also said, "On the other hand, there could be no growth if there were not something planted. Until the new man is born, there is not so much as a seed of true holiness, no principle that can be unfolded."

Respectfully submitted,
John D. Schofield

has grown from 22 to 34. These persons continue to be growing, learning and serving leaders in their local church, neighboring churches, and throughout the convention. A proposed Newsletter which will keep these persons in touch and share concerns and activities will be published occasionally by the convention office. Many of these CEA's attended the Regional Curriculum Workshop in March in Atlanta, and are now more acquainted with the United Church Curriculum. Most of them are here at the convention to help share with you about the United Church Curriculum. We will work in teams and are available to visit local churches whenever invited. (We hope we'll be invited!) There are 19 of us.

We are fortunate in the national leadership we have had and will have in our area — Rev. Edward A. Powers at the annual meeting of the convention and Rev. Walter E. Dobler at the Spring Ministers' Convocation. Let us continue our progress in the field of Christian Education.

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley N. Berry

Report Of Committee On United Church Conference

The Committee on Reorganization and Realignment, composed of persons appointed by the Southeast Convention, the Convention of the South, and the South Indiana Synod, has held two meetings since the last annual meeting of the Southeast Convention. In our meeting on September 12, 1962, we gave our time primarily to the work of the sub-committees which are dealing with specific areas of concern, such as boundaries, ministerial standing, location of office, etc. The meeting December 10-11, 1962, was a two-day meeting in which the committee began more precisely to develop its strategy as it prepares to present recommendations to the parent bodies.

It is expected that by the time of our annual meeting in 1964, the Committee will be prepared to submit to the Southeast Convention recommendations for action in the formulation of a Southeast Conference of the United Church. In the time between now and then the Committee will prepare the necessary information and the enabling resolutions to be voted on by the parent bodies.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Raymond Berry
Chairman

Report Congregational Christian Foundation

If we are to be a learning, teaching, witnessing community we must exercise every effort to encourage and help to prepare those young people of ours who feel themselves called to give full-time service to the church.

Every church should be interested in prospective candidates. Moreover, when a local church gives financial aid to the Foundation, it is in fact investing in its own future by having a part in the training and preparation of our future leaders.

The Foundation, affiliated with Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville, has in times past furnished some of our best ministers. This remains its primary mission today. The Foundation is not some outside interest but an integral part of our Convention program.

We, therefore, ask your support.

Arnold Slater, Chairman

A Report By The President Of Southern Union College

The "Bisons", Southern Union's basketball team, won the 1963 7th Regional tournament by defeating Snead College by a score of 71 to 70. This honor



then entitled them to go to Hutchinson, Kansas, and participate in the National Junior College Tournament. The Bisons gave a good account of themselves. Known as the "Cinderella" team, being from one of the smaller colleges, having no gymnasium and having a fairly poor conference record prior to winning the regional tournament, the college is very proud of the two new trophies.

The president, Mr. Beaman Griffin, (director of music), Miss Peggy Hammond (accompanist and Dean of Women), and five members of the Southern Union Singers made a week long tour of churches in the State of Florida. The host ministers placed the college representatives in homes of their various members. Several of the visitors had not previously been in Florida, so the trip was most interesting and beneficial to all.

The Board of Trustees has just held its annual meeting. Among other items, it approved a budget for 1963-1964 of \$225,000.00, the highest budget in the history of the college. The contributions received in 1962 from churches, individuals, groups of men and women, and foundations totalled more than \$119,000.00, also the largest in the history of the college.

The Board of Trustees also approved a plan to beautify the campus by building a lake of 10 to 15 acres, constructing some new roads, relocating the basketball diamond and tennis courts.

The campus will soon have a host of visitors, including the Michigan Pilgrim Fellowship group, the Eastern and Mid-Western Tours, a Pilgrim Fellowship group from West Hartford, Conn., the regular United Church Summer Work Campers, and a special work camp group from Rock Springs, Wyoming.

The enrollment for the spring quarter is approximately 17% larger than the same period last year. This is the 6th quarter in which there has been an increase over the same period of the previous year. Summer school and fall registrations look good.

Report Of Committee Survey And Church Aid

If you are wondering why this report is not being written by the appointed chairman, it should be explained that Harold C. Henderson is minister of our Montgomery Church, now receiving financial assistance from the Division of Church Extension, and it was agreed under this circumstance Harold should resign.

A familiar quotation known to many of us is "United We Stand." A minister in a major denomination was heard to say that was correct, but experience has been "Divided We Grow." We, of the convention, do not want growth by division but if, locally, we cannot sponsor or organize a mission church—the Southeast Convention with 111 churches should have the vision and generosity to do this together.

We read that industry is moving South — are there strategic areas where we should locate? Where we should witness?

Thanks to fine leadership, our newest churches, Huntsville and Montgomery, are making progress and it should be noted, contributing to Our Christian World Mission.

Russell Woods, Phenix City, has a new building. The Church Builders Club promised this project support—the response so far has been inadequate. We should encourage this enterprising fellowship.

What of those churches receiving aid?

The Budget Committee studies these situations annually. The grants given are small because of the limited income in the convention. To justify continued assistance the members and ministers of those churches should be equally careful in making a thorough appraisal of their situations as an incentive to improved stewardship.

Remember that only as we work together can we grow together.

Yours in fellowship,
Arnold Slater, Chairman
Committee on Survey & Church Aid

All of us at the college are deeply indebted to the people in the area of the Southeast Convention for their interest, prayers, and support. We hope to be worthy of your continued concern and urge you to visit us whenever convenient.

Walter A. Graham
President

SUBSCRIBE TO THE
UNITED CHURCH HERALD

The Report Of The Women's Fellowship

"Partners with God", the program theme of the year, has been a challenge to every woman to become involved in God's program and plan in obedience to the Great Commission "Go ye".

In the Southern Regional Council of Lay Life and Work on November 9, 1962, your president actively participated in the planning and carrying on of the program. Next spring there will be a Regional Lay Leader's Meeting in which we will participate. The equalization plan will be used in financing this lay meeting.

Our Minister of Christian Education, the Kentucky-Tennessee Women's Fellowship President, and your Convention Women's Fellowship President participated in the final President's Meeting of the National Women's Fellowship and the first Council for Lay Life and Work meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, in February. The emphasis in this Council meeting was to deepen the understanding of the responsibility of the laity; acceptance of this responsibility; and how to carry out our responsibility — how to witness.

Five leaders of Women's Fellowship in the Southeast Convention participated in the Southern Regional Leadership Workshop at Bricks, N. C., March 8-10. This workshop was under the direction of Mrs. F. C. Lester, South-



MISS DORA C. BRACKIN
President, Women's Fellowship

Report Of The Churchmen's Fellowship

To paraphrase from Odell Yancey's report a year ago, "Many things are happening within our Churchmen's Fellowship this year, 1963." Your president was very fortunate in that he attended the first annual meeting of the "National Churchmen's Fellowship" at Purdue University, LaFayette, Indiana, last August 17, 18, and 19. There were representatives there from every Conference or Convention throughout the nation. The leadership was top-notch, with Mr. Irwin Miller, president of the National Council of Churches, Dr. Robert Spike, Board of Homeland Ministries, and Dr. Douglas Horton, former secretary and minister of the General Council.

Three distinct periods throughout the entire meeting were set aside when those in attendance were divided into small groups which were used as buzz sessions and each person had an opportunity to express himself relative to the subject discussed by the speakers. Then, too, there were the Bible Study groups which were set up in a similar fashion to the buzz groups but containing different people which was extremely informative and useful.

The two groups of laymen, the National Laymen's Fellowship and the Churchmen's Brotherhood of the E & R Church, were formally united at this meeting. Working rules for governing

ern Regional Secretary of the Council for Lay Life and Work. She was assisted by Mrs. W. A. Barlekamp, Mrs. W. E. Wisseman, National Leaders; and our Rev. Emilie F. Pitcock.

At the eight Spring Rallies we have been "taking a look" at our Rally and Retreat programs to see if they could be made more meaningful in helping us accept and carry out our responsibility as mature Christians in our changing culture.

Your Executive Committee of the Women's Fellowship is dedicated to becoming Growing Christians in Our Changing Culture as we lose ourselves in promoting Our Christian World Mission, the Material Aid, and Family Thank Offering programs in the year ahead, and as we try to involve ALL the people of our churches in these programs.

Twenty-two days have been spent in attending and participating in 14 meetings by your president.

Respectfully submitted,
Dora C. Brackin, President



MR. RUFUS G. OBRECHT
President, Churchmen's Fellowship

and to guide the functioning of this new arm were adopted. Mr. Dale Peake of Salt Lake City, Utah, was elected president for this year.

In November, your president attended the Area Meeting in Atlanta conducted by and for the Council of Lay Life and Work. This meeting was for the leaders of both the Women's and the Men's organizations within the Church, and which make up the Council for Lay Life and Work, throughout the Southern part of the United States. Our leaders at this meeting were Rev. Lillian S. Gregory and Mrs. F. C. Lester. The function of this meeting was to shed more light on the growing work of the Laity, which is headed up in the Council for Lay Life and Work.

On February 22, 23, and 24, this year, your president attended the "Lay Leader's Conference," the Council for Lay Life and Work in Cleveland, Ohio. There were some 200 delegates from all the Conferences and Conventions and Synods in attendance. This was the first formalized meeting for the Council for Lay Life and Work. We really received a good inside look at the Council and its program at this meeting. The "Program: Opportunities for Adults" was presented here.

We are holding a retreat June 8th and 9th at Southern Union College, Wadley, Alabama. We are planning a most interesting program and I hope a large number of our men will attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Rufus G. Obrecht, Pres.

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